Tooronga, 72 Elizabeth Street, Malvern – Statement of Significance, June 2021

Heritage place: Tooronga, 72 Elizabeth Street,

Malvern

PS ref no.: HO309



Figure 1. 72 Elizabeth Street, Malvern (GJM Heritage, July 2020)

What is significant?

Tooronga at 72 Elizabeth Street, Malvern built c1890.

Elements that contribute to the significance of the place include (but are not limited to):

- The original external form, materials and detailing of the house
- The house's high level of integrity to its original design
- Large two storey Italianate style house
- Rendered brick walls
- Slate-clad hipped roofs with exposed eaves
- Return verandah and balcony with cast iron frieze, brackets, columns and balustrade
- North wing with polygonal bay to Elizabeth Street elevation
- Secondary hipped bay to Arthur Street elevation with a pair of narrow rectangular windows
- Rendered detailing including paired eaves brackets with raised panels between, string courses, window hoods and recessed panels

Prominent chimneys with corniced cappings and decorative brackets.

Later alterations and additions are not significant. This includes the rear addition to north-east and associated pool, garage and front fence.

How is it significant?

Tooronga is of local historical, representative (architectural) and aesthetic significance to the City of Stonnington.

Why is it significant?

Tooronga has strong associations with the subdivision of large land holdings in the municipality by speculative investors in the late 1880s. Constructed on an allotment in the Tooronga Station Estate, this house clearly illustrates this important phase of development in the City of Stonnington (Criterion A).

Tooronga is a fine and highly intact representative example of a Victorian Italianate house. It displays typical features of the Italianate style popular in the 1880s and 1890s in Malvern and across Melbourne more broadly, including simple massing with slate-clad hipped roof, return verandah and balcony with cast iron decoration, cement render façade detailing such as paired eaves brackets, string courses, window hoods and recessed panels, a polygonal bay and prominent chimneys (Criterion D).

Tooronga is a well-considered and carefully detailed example of an Italianate house. Situated on a corner allotment, the simple two-storey design with exposed hipped roof, rendered walls and return verandah, together with the use of distinctive architectural elements and detailing including a polygonal bay, prominent chimneys, rendered detailing and cast-iron decoration, presents a picturesque composition of this architectural style (Criterion E).

Primary source:

Malvern Heritage Review, GJM Heritage (June 2021)

N Lewis & Associates, City of Malvern Heritage Study, 1992